I PROMISED I'D PROTECT HER AND I WILL.

Written and Composed by J. Arthur Nelson Especially for the

Sunday Post-Dispatch

Supplement to the Sunday Post-Dispatch, September 15, 1901.

Dedicated to my Friend Henry C. Williams.

I PROMISED I'D PROTECT HER-AND I WILL.

Arr. by W. T. FISK

Words & Music by
J. ARTHUR NELSON.

f *accel.* *dim.* *p*

The Christ-mas bells were ring - ing out their An - thems soft and sweet A
The crowd fell back in si - lence not a word had they to say The

p

fair haired girl with tatt - ered dress came slow - ly down the street A
drunk - en wretch who'd stopp'd the girl in shame now walk'd a - way A

crowd of men ac - cost - ed her She shrank back in a - larm Whilst
po - lice man came run - ning up At - tract - ed by the throng And

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one more for - ward than the rest He seized her by the arm A
turn - ing to the gath - 'ring crowd He bade them move a - long "And

young man sprang a - mongst the crowd "Un - hand that girl!" he cried "What
now my lass" he grief - ly said "You'd bet - ter seek your home!" "A -

mf

right have you to in - ter - fere," The oth - er man re - plied "She's nothing but an out - cast who Would
las, I have no place to go" She murmur'd with a moan The stranger opened wide his arms "Come

p

sell her soul for bread." But heeding not the cru - el taunt These words the stranger said
Nel - lie dear" said he "Tho' you have err'd you're still my wife Your place is still with me"

CHORUS.

I promised to protect her years a - go When I rested by the Altar side by side

tho' our paths have parted here be - low I can't forget this gal was on my bride No

mut-ter what her past life may have been I will try and do my duty to her still Tho' she

shattered ev'ry vow, God-not I-must jud-ge her now, I promised I'll protect her and I will